

VZCZCXYZ0001
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHKT #1727 1811157
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 301157Z JUN 06
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2161
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 4546
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 4797
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 9911
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 2784
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 4198
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 9955
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 001727

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

NSC FOR MILLARD
DEPT PLEASE PASS TO USAID/ANE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/30/2016
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [NP](#)
SUBJECT: US-FUNDED FACILITATOR CONCERNED ABOUT PEACE
IMPLEMENTATION

REF: KATHMANDU 631 (NOTAL)

Classified By: Ambassador James F. Moriarty, Reasons 1.4 (b/d)

11. (C) USAID-funded contractor Hannes Siebert told the Ambassador June 29 that he was worried about the lack of progress by the Government of Nepal (GON) in the constitutional drafting committee as well as in establishing the cease fire monitoring committee. Siebert shared the Ambassador's assessment of the inherent danger of including the Maoists in an interim government before they had laid down their arms and renounced violence. He agreed with the Ambassador that the arms management issue is the make-or-break issue central to the current phase of Nepal's transition.

12. (C) Siebert noted that monitoring committee members had been approved by both the Seven Party Alliance (SPA) and the Maoists, thus clearly including Maoist sympathizers. He expressed alarm at the lack of teeth accorded the monitoring committee under the agreed terms of reference, emphasizing the need to add terms outlining concrete consequences (sanctions) for cease fire code of conduct violations. Siebert intended to press this point during rounds of meetings in Kathmandu in coming days.

13. (C) Siebert was complimentary regarding the efforts of Nepal's interim constitutional drafting committee, noting that staff are already deeply engaged in long hours of preparatory drafting. Siebert encouraged the Ambassador's activist approach toward engaging both the monitoring committee and the constitutional drafting committee. He shared the view that international support for the wavering and overwhelmed GON, especially from the United States, is crucial at the current juncture. The USAID-funded peace facilitator agreed that Home Minister Sitaula's dual-hatted role as chief law enforcement officer and GON negotiator presented an inherent conflict of influence which weaken the GON's position.

Comment

14. (C) Siebert reflected a pervasive sense of uneasiness with

the peace process among GON officials and Nepal's political class. This widespread criticism of the performance of the GON combines with a perception of the perceived relative strength of the Maoists to create a morale-sapping cocktail. Stepped up engagement and support for democracy by the international community, led by the U.S., is clearly essential at this potential tipping point.

MORIARTY